

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Eliza Symonds Bell, April 16, 1894, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Mrs. Alexander Melville Bell. Beinn Bhreagh, Victoria County, Cape Breton, N. S. April 16th 1894. My dear Mrs. Bell:

I am very sorry I haven't written you long ago. I have meant to, but my letters to the children and Mamma are about all the writing I can well manage. Besides I feel that you must hear all the news of us you desire from the children. It is a great consolation to me for the loss of my children's company this winter to know that you and Mr. Bell are enjoying them. I am very happy also that they should be laying up dear memories of you and Mr. Bell that will remain with them all their lives.

I wish I could have been with you all this last month, the season has been very late this year, and I have been able to do little of what I hoped. Each day I have thought "Now the snow must be so far gone that I can go out," but each day I have had to wait. Today and yesterday it has been raining and the snow bank beside our piazza railing has sunk fully one foot since yesterday, but there are still four feet of closely packed snow to melt away before the ground there is clear. We are looking after our roads and big reservoir and hoping that they won't all be swept away by the deluge that is coming.

Alec and I have not yet quite decided on our plans. Alec says he must be here all of May, and go down in June. I want to go down just as soon as I can get things started and return as soon as the children finish school so that I shall have some time to put the finishing touches to the house and grounds before you and Mr. Bell come down. Alec will be in Chautauqua from July 1st to 10th. Will 2 you and Mr. Bell and Mary and Louisa come with him, or will you come before? We are making all our preparations so that the Golden Wedding shall be celebrated worthily, and our dear new home receive its consecration with the Golden Wedding of our Father and Mother. Alec and I are very happy in this

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thought. I wonder whether we will live to see our Golden Wedding. I am not positive that I want to, but just now life is indeed very dear and sweet.

We are all very well. Alec is very much excited over his new flying machine, and hoped to send it up this morning, but it is pouring.

With much love to you and Mr. Bell and my cousins.

Affectionately yours, Mabel.